About This Collection

Michael McEachern McDowell was the author of a number of horror novels, including *The Amulet* (1979), *Cold Moon Over Babylon* (1980), and *The Elementals* (1981), as well as six serialized novels known as the *Blackwater* series (1983). He also has screenwriting credits for Tim Burton's *Beetlejuice* and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, and wrote for the TV series *Tales from the Darkside*. The Michael McDowell Death Collection is comprised of 76 boxes, and spans the years 1616 – 2005. The collection was assembled by McDowell based on his interest in the subject matter, and includes correspondence, photographs (including photographic prints, daguerreotypes, tintypes, ambrotypes, and stereographs), memorial cards, jewelry, hairwork, scrapbooks, ledgers, news clippings, and artifacts. The **Psychics and Spiritualism** series, which includes boxes 35 through 43**,** contains a comparatively extensive group of spirit photographs and Spiritualism-related materials, including photographs are identified as the work of Edward Wyllie, William Mumler, Frederick Hudson, and others.

The collection is currently housed in the Charles Deering McCormick Library of Special Collections, Deering Library, Level 3, 1970 Campus Drive, Evanston, Illinois.

About This Document

This document represents the contents of **Box 40, Folders 11-18** of the collection. It is a loose collection of psychic readings, medium solicitations, and other paranormal paper ephemera. Pages 2-13 contain the contents of a solicitation envelope from occultist Clay Burton Vance. Pages 14-15 feature a postcard of Madame I'oma. Page 16 features a broadside for the 80s-era psychic Mrs. Bell. Pages 17-18 contain the business card of Palmist Mme. Jamelah. Pages 19-20 feature a business card for Soul Reader Alice Morgan. Pages 21-29 feature the multi-page contents of a psychic reading from 1933 by Raymond Garrett Heermance. Page 30 features a reading solicitation from Roxroy Studios dated 1911. Pages 31-32 feature a reading by "Clairvoyant & Indian Dr." S.Z. Barney.

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FRANCE.

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PARIS, FRANCE.

Dear Client:-

I have pleasure in forwarding herewith your Reading and trust you will be pleased and also that you will find the Reading interesting and of practical value to you.

I am always glad to hear from my clients and learn whether they are pleased or not--as the opinions assist me in gratifying the wishes in future dealings. Therefore I would be thankful if you will write me when you find time, telling me your opinion of your Reading.

I shall always be interested in your welfare and sincerely hope that you will enjoy your share of success and happiness. I feel sure that my calculations for you will be found accurate.

Awaiting your furthur commands and with very best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

Dict. to W.R.

Clay Burton Vance

En cas de non-livraison en
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à C. B. V., Palais-Royal,
PARIS (FRANCE).

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85.

Special to my Patrons.

You will be doing me a favour which will ensure more prompt attention to your communication, if in answering you will kindly use the printed envelope enclosed herewith.

Very truly yours,

Clay Burton Vance

No. 20

IMPORTANT.

Experience shows that there is a large miscarriage of mail between France and abroad. Therefore, if you want to be doubly sure of receiving your Reading, enclose this slip and 2 ½ d. in stamps with your order, and I will see that your Reading is sent by registered mail.

(OVER).

ARE YOU UNLUCKY?

SOCIETY PEOPLE WEAR LUCKY STONES.

Mysterious Power of Lucky Stones from Ceylon said to Bring Good Fortune.

NO longer can the question of "Luck" be treated with derision, for quite recently a gem has been brought to these shores which is said to exercise an unfathomable influence, and bring Health, Wealth and Happiness to its wearer. Society people are eagerly acquiring them, and "Lucky Stones" are in the possession of Lord Avebury, Lady Cave, Lady Hope, Lady Kinloch-Cooke, Lady Violet Brassey of Apethorpe, etc., etc. So abundantly does good fortune attend the possessors of these stones, that their staunch enthusiastic statements would convince even the most sceptical, and a large number of their appreciative letters are on file at our office. Some of our clients, indeed, say that they count their real good fortune from the time they acquired a "Lucky Stone."

Only a small stock of these "Lucky Stones" remain on hand, and those of our readers who wish to possess one, should send at once 2/6 P.O. (60 cents U.S.A.) or stamps of any country, to the address below. All orders will be dealt with in the same rotation as received, and remittances will be returned in full if received after the full stock has been exhausted.

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36, QUEEN ANNE'S CHAMBERS

31. **LONDON, S.W., ENG.** [P.T.O.

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DO YOU WEAR ONE?

A Custom which has lived Many Centuries now being Actively Revived.

EVEN since Biblical times jewels and costly ornaments have held an irresistible fascination over the minds of men and women. Since that time many gems have increased in value, not because of their scarcity, but by reason of being jealously guarded by their owners, many of them being regarded as emblematical of good fortune. Since the seventeenth century precious stones have been divided according to the properties which they are said to confer upon their wearers, and a distinct stone is worn according to the month in which a person was born. The stones are then said to have a peculiar influence in conferring health, riches, good fortune, power and success upon the wearer. We have a limited supply of the stones handsomely mounted on silver aluminium hearts engraved with the lucky emblems horseshoe, four-leaved clover, rabbit and wishbone can be worn as charm for watch albert or locket, or may be carried in ladies' hand-bag or pocket book; an elegant and much appreciated gift for a friend or relative. For a limited time we can supply these birth-stone jewels for only two shillings (50 cents U.S.A.) each, post paid (stamps of any country accepted). Notice: Be sure to give the month and date of birth.

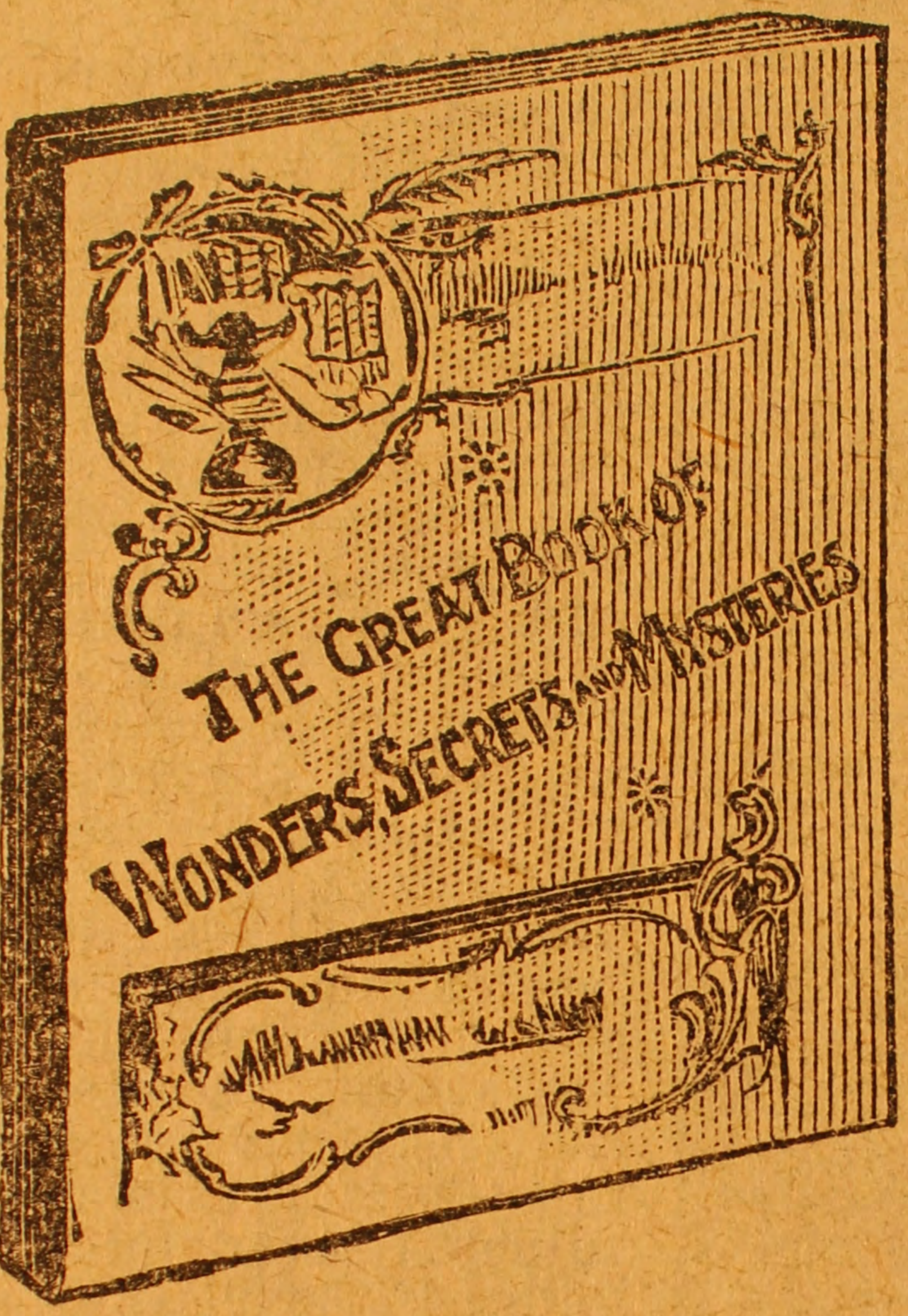
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T TREE'S PLANS.

NOTHER THEATRE
UN OF "DRAKE."

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and should his sanguine
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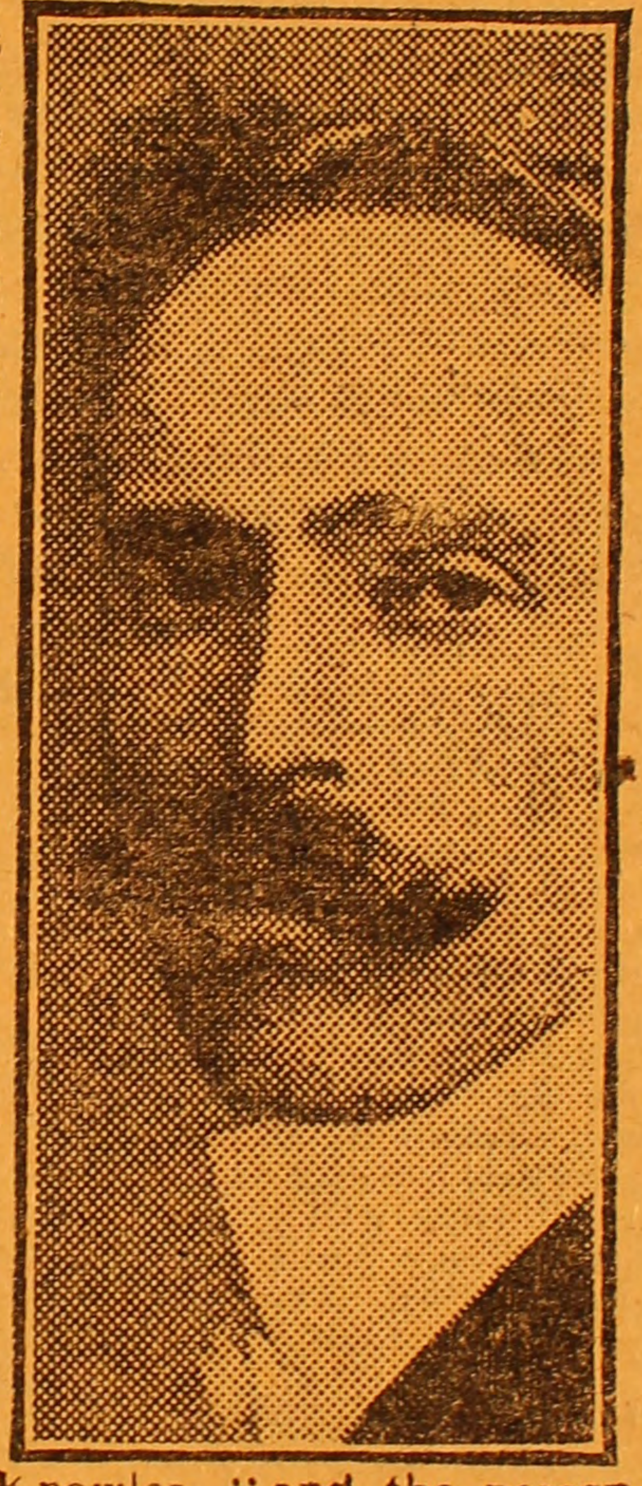
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Wonderful Book Describing this Strange Force and a Character Delineation Post Free to all who Write at once.

The National Institute of Sciences has appropriated £5,000 toward a fund for the free distribution of Prof. Knowles' new book, "The Key to the Development of the Inner Forces." The book lays bare many astounding facts concerning the practices of Eastern Yogis, and explains a wonderful system for the development of Personal Magnetism, Hypnotic and Telepathic Powers, and the curing of diseases and habits without drugs. The subject of practical character reading is also extensively dealt with, and the author describes a simple method of accurately reading the secret thoughts and desires of others though thousands of miles away. The almost endless stream of letters requesting copies of the book and character delineations indicate clearly the universal interest in Psychological and Occult Sciences.



"Rich and poor alike benefit by the teachings of this new system," says Prof. Knowles, "and the person who wishes to achieve greater success has but to apply the simple rules laid down." That many wealthy and prominent people owe their success to the power of Personal Influence there is not the slightest doubt, but the great mass of people have remained in utter ignorance of these phenomena. The National Institute of Sciences has therefore undertaken the somewhat arduous task of distributing broadcast, without regard for class or creed, the information heretofore possessed by the few. In addition to supplying the books free, each person who writes at once will also receive a character delineation of from 400 to 500 words as prepared by Prof. Knowles.

If you wish a copy of Prof. Knowles' book and a Character Delineation, simply copy the following verse in your own handwriting:

"I want power of mind,
Force and strength in my look,
Please read my character
And send me your book."

Also send your full name and address state (whether Mr., Mrs., or Miss), write plainly, and address your letter to: National Institute of Sciences, Dept. E, No. 258, Westminster Bridge-road, London, S.E., Eng. If you wish you may enclose 6d. or 10 cents U.S.A. (stamps of your own country) to pay postage, etc. Do not enclose coins or silver in your letter.

Am sending you this, thinking you might be interested

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PRESENTS

Madame J'oma



J'oma

THE WORLD-FAMOUS MYSTIC

AND GENUINE CLAIRVOYANTE

POST CARD.

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

Empire Theatre

Taunton

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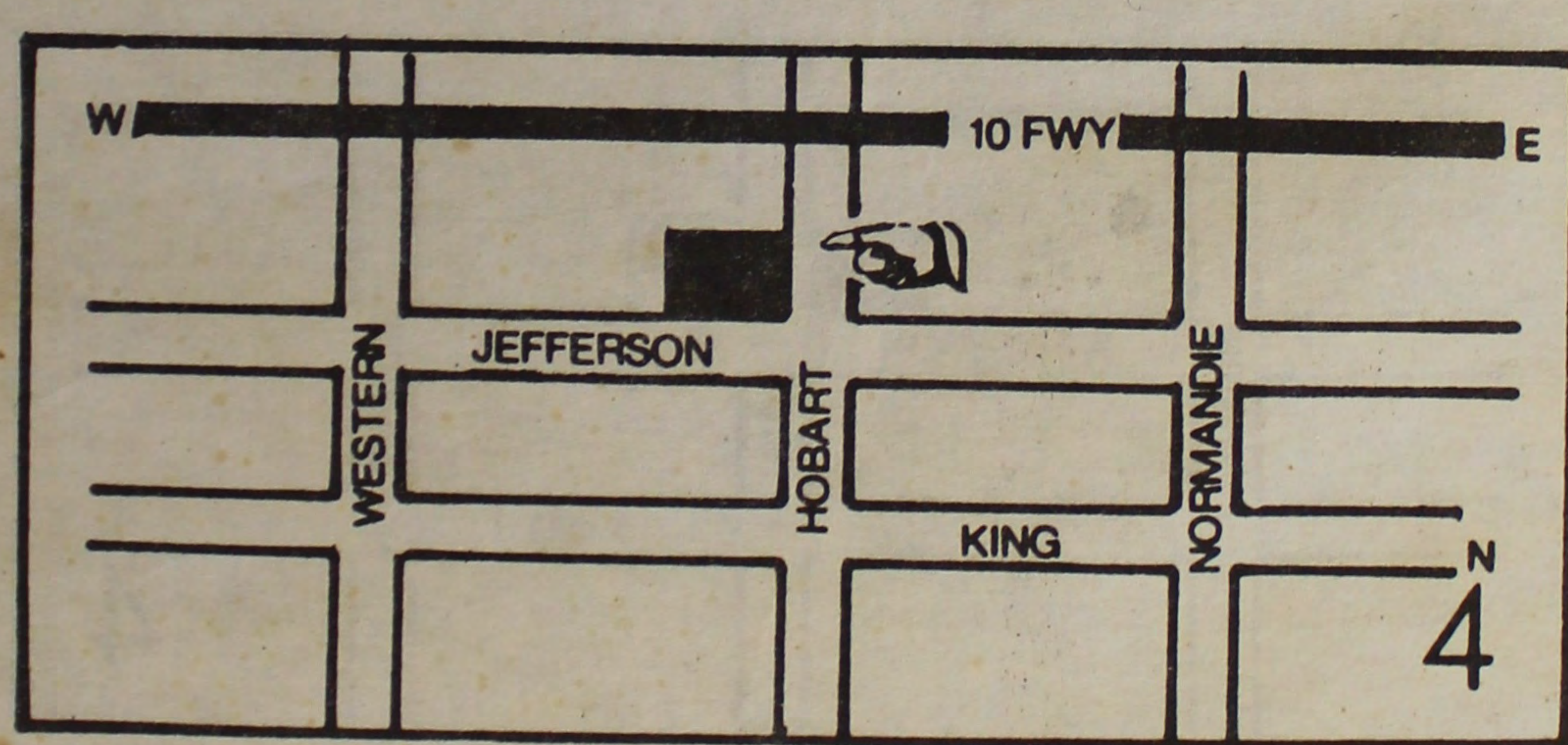


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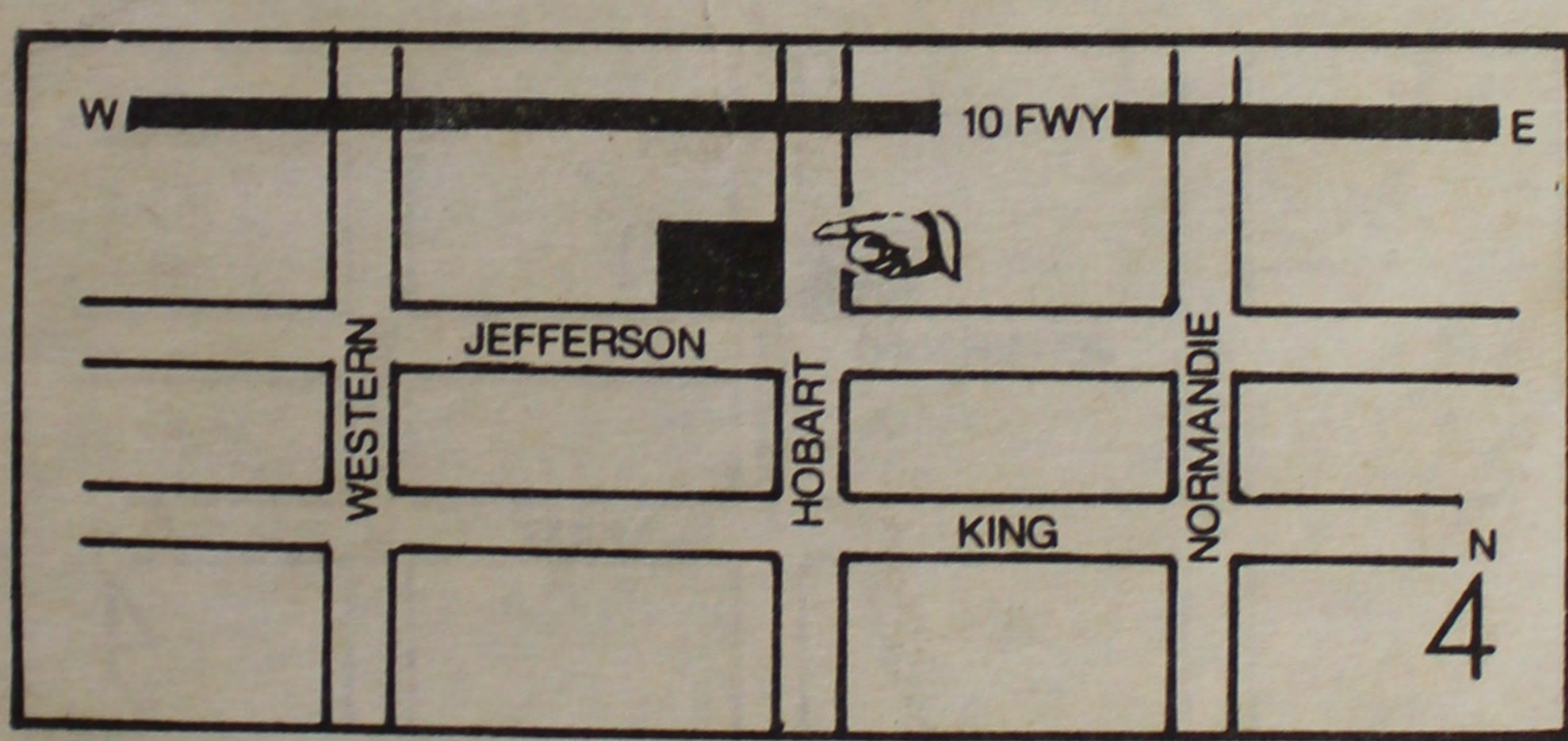
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HERMANA BELL

Le dira el Pasado, el Presente y el Futuro

Garantiza ayudar en amor, matrimonio y darle suerte en sus empleos Si no puede dormir y tiene mala suerte y todo le va mal desea ganar el amor que Ud quiere yo garantizo ayudarle Yo quito el mal de su hogar y la sombra que lo persigue Yo garantizo ayudarle en separaciones matrimoniales, y de amores tambien. El toque de mi mano lo sanara y le dara suerte por toda su vida. Yo quito la brujeria y todo lo malo que usted tenga en su cuerpo. Una vista lo convencera que yo soy superior a todas las que Ud haya consultado. Yo te voy a poner en el camino de la felicidad y la dicha. Con solo mirar yo se todos sus problemas porque tengo el poder de Dios para ayudarle. Venga hoy mismo. Garantizo ayudarle en su naturaleza amoroso perdido. y curo alcoholismo y todos los sufrimientos de la vida.



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177 BOULEVARD, REVERE BEACH.

Sunday and
Monday today
Saturday with
tuesday and
Friday
the [illegible] [illegible]
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TAKE HOLYOKE CAR

P. O. BOX 321

MISS ALICE A. MORGAN

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NO. 17 ELM ST., COR. SOUTHWORTH ST.,

WEST SPRINGFIELD

TERMS 50c

MASS.

Mrs. Van Kuran
6 Hunt Terrace
off Allen St

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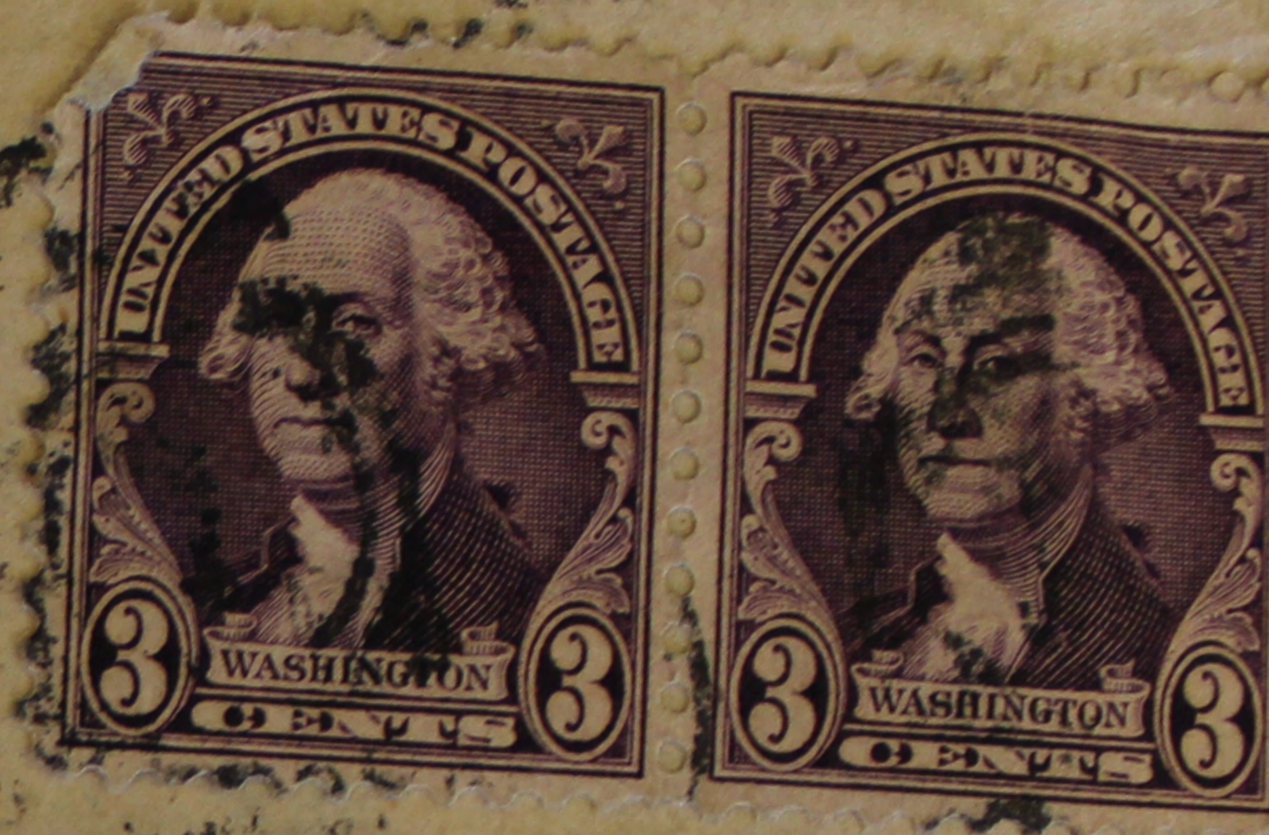
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~~149 MAGAZINE STREET~~

SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

238 Worthington St.

SPRINGFIELD
OCT 3
330PM
MASS.
1933



Pearl Esther Miles,

Bradley.

Maine.

Box 17

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3 Questions answered by mail $1.00

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GET A READING FROM YOUR FULL NAME

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CONSCIOUS MEDIUM AND INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER
PSYCOMETRIST AND ASTROLOGICAL READER
~~149 MAGAZINE STREET~~ 838 Worthington St.
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

SOCIETIES SERVED ANYWHERE

NAMEOGRAM MAN

Nov. 14th/33

Pearl E. Miles

Dear Client.

Thanks again for your questions & fee which I will answer as usual.

Ans #1 I get just did not care to answer or rather write to you.

Ans #2 Yes, is the word I hear regarding Bangor.

Ans #3. I do not get him "coming back" to you, do not worry, oh you of course will say, "worry" how can I help but worry" please buck up your spirits or feeling, the road, is brighter ahead for you.

Yours for Spiritual Truth.

R G Heermance

~~Page 3~~ Page 1

READINGS BY MAIL 3 QUESTIONS $1.00 GET A READING FROM YOUR FULL NAME $2.00

RAYMOND GARRETT HEERMANCE

CONSCIOUS MEDIUM AND INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER

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SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

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SOCIETIES SERVED ANYWHERE NAMEOGRAM MAN

Oct 2nd/33

Pearl Esther Miles.

Dear Client.

Many thanks for your "Name-O-Gram" request and fee, received this A.M. at 11 O'clock. I will do my best for you,

The first letter of your name represents the first year of your life, and denotes that, that year their was good fortune and feasting, or in other words there was good success around you that benifited you even though you were so young.

The second letter of your name, represents the 2nd year of your life, and I see, great success in love, no doubt people began to love you more and perhaps there may have been a new under standing with the parents.

The third letter represents a passionate and ambitious nature at that time, early in life as it was, you started to show more action in regard to being more alive, and ambitious.

READINGS BY MAIL 3 QUESTIONS $1.00 GET A READING FROM YOUR FULL NAME $2.00
Birth date reading $1.00
RAYMOND GARRETT HEERMANCE
CONSCIOUS MEDIUM AND INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER
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SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
SOCIETIES SERVED ANYWHERE 838 Worthington St. NAMEOGRAM MAN

The fourth letter, represents, trouble from oppressive and miserly persons, I feel there was trouble around your people at that time over a fence

---

The fifth letter represents, good news by mail I see a man around you at that cute age, looks like a father, to me, smiling over a letter, that was a strictly business letter.

The sixth letter again as in the second year of your life, represents success in love a school teacher I get, used to favor you many times due to a love for you.

The 7th letter the "mystic" year of your life represents, rashness, and stupid mistakes, but came out all Ok. in the end,

---

The 8th letter of your name, represents, wisdom, in living, beginning to be more psychic, or mediumistic, because I know that in your brain cells there has always been that latent power, "second sight".

My course in development of True Mediumship by mail is for a time, $2.00 $5.00

READINGS BY MAIL 3 QUESTIONS $1.00

GET A READING FROM YOUR FULL NAME

Birth date reading $1.00

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PSYCOMETRIST AND ASTROLOGICAL READER
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838 Worthington St.

SOCIETIES SERVED ANYWHERE

NAMEOGRAM MAN

The 9th letter of your name represents protection of influential friends, I see that your parents were at that time helped by these kind of friends that in turn naturally helped you.

The 10th letter of your wonderful name, represents again, success in love.

The 11th letter of your name represents, as in the 4th year of your life, oppression from miserly persons.

The 12th year of your life, or letter, represents losses and burdens, perhaps physical, and money losses, perhaps too, I feel to much loss of the blood stream at this particular year.

The 13th year or letter represents, anxiety, I know the worry or anxiety, could be from the condition of the past year, the 12th year.

The 14th year or letter of your wonderful past life represents again as in the 5th year, good news by mail, perhaps a sweetheart letter or card or some good news to some other friend or member of the family that effected Pearl.

A Course in development of True mediumship by mail
25 lessons for $15.00

Page 4

Page 4

$2.00

RAYMOND GARRETT HEERMANCE
CONSCIOUS MEDIUM AND INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER
PSYCOMETRIST AND ASTROLOGICAL READER
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SOCIETIES SERVED ANYWHERE NAMEOGRAM MAN

The 15th year of your life represents, as in the 2nd year, success in love, only I feel, more strong. And would there have been than a "John" in your life?

The 16th year, that sweet year in one's life represents, again as in the 7th year, rashness and stupid mistake, I see a quarrel at that time.

The 17th year of your life, represents, as in the first year only great deal stronger, good fortune and feasting.

The 18th year of your life, represents, again as in the 2nd, 6th, 10th and 15th years, success in love.

The 19th year of your life represent, a very passionate and ambitious girl, the same was in the year but great deal stronger ~~on~~ at this 19th year.

The 20th year of your life represents, as in the 11th year, and 4th year, trouble from mean people and misery ones.

The 21st year that great year of outlook over the coming years, represents, as in the 5th and 14th years, good news by mail, did you not at this

A full 25 lesson course in True Mediumship for $15.00

Page 5

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SOCIETIES SERVED ANYWHERE NAMEOGRAM MAN

21st Year Continued

particular year go away on an important journey I see a suit case in your hand, called away I feel by mail, or good news.

The 22nd Year represents, again as in the 2nd, 10th and 15th years, success in love, you certainly have had a lot of successes in love.

The 23rd Year represents, rashness and stupid ~~...~~ mistakes I find that after these successes in love you follow by making mistakes.

The 24th Year represents, as in the 8th year, wisdom in living.

The 25th Year represents as in the 9th Year, protection of influential friends.

The 26th Year represents, I am glad to say to you represents as in the 4th, 11th, years success in love, and this I am sure checks up by my reading mailed you about, friendship in the future.

I see your name represents, in full,

Real Estate, nursing, leather goods, travel, healing, mediumship, eating business, Dentist nurse,

A full course in True Mediumship
25 lesson by mail
$5.00

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838 Worthington st.

These are the proffessions you should follow but principally would I like you to take up Mediumship and healing.

The 27th year holds in store great things for you it also represents, as in the 4th 11th and 20th year oppressions, but you can mitigate this condition if you will by using your will power again them.

I truly have enjoyed casting for you this "Name-O-Gram" and hope to again hear from you, for regular reading etc. and may I tutor you in Mediumship?

Please retain one of my cards for my address, because you may not always see my ad. in papers.

Trusting you will like this work, I remain
Yours for Spiritual Truth.

R G Heermance

Best of success to you.

ROXROY STUDIOS

177a Kensington High Street,
London, W., England.

Nov 28/11

Dear Miss Kitchin,

Some time ago, I offered you an Annual Reading for 1911, at a very low price, but I cannot find any record of having received your Order. In spite of this, I am asking you to allow me to prepare you such a Reading for 1912, I feel sure you will understand why I do so, when you read the enclosed testimonials, all of which show the great value placed upon my Annual Readings by those who have had one.

The year 1912, as indicated by the enclosed circular "General Outlook for 1912," should prove to be an eventful one, not only for the world in general, but for you in particular. Your planetary aspects are most interesting and it will be well if you are prepared beforehand to face circumstances which should have a lasting influence on your life. By means of my astrological calculations, I am in a position to show you how you may best meet the favourable and unfavourable periods (be they days or hours) which occur between Jan. 1st and Dec. 31st, 1912. Among the matters requiring care, I may mention speculation, matrimony, health and business.

I am truly interested in your welfare, and it is only because I feel that I can help you that I persist in asking you to let me calculate a 1912 Reading for you. With the Annual Reading I shall send you a copy of my Moon Table and daily Hour Guide, free of charge, as clients find it a very useful monitor when unexpected vibrations disturb the mathematical accuracy of the chief planetary aspects.

The Reading-matter in an Annual Reading covers about six sheets and contains some 3,000 words, from this you may judge of the detailed information found in it.

As I am really anxious to be of use to you, I shall only ask you EIGHT SHILLINGS ($2.00 U.S.A.) (instead of 12/-) for such a Reading as this, but at the same time I must impress upon you the necessity of sending me your order within 20 to 25 days after the receipt of this letter. Don't delay. Send your Order at once. You run no risk. I do all my business on the understanding that if you are not satisfied and say so, I return your money in full.

Awaiting your early order and assuring you of my good wishes,

I am,
Faithfully yours,

Roxroy

Steno. 19-A.

P.S.-Please fill up and return enclosed Order Form together with the amount quoted, as it will save time.

1911

S. Z. Barney,
CLAIRVOYANT & INDIAN DR.,
Business and Test Readings.

Otsego, Allegan Co. Mich.
Oct, 25th 1894.

Miss Myra Newman,
Dear Miss,
Yours recieved with thanks, and in reply I see your body is somewhat deseased & we can cure you for a small amount. — I now see a man step up to you with a valise in his right hand. he is of medium hieth. he has dark hair. I see a journey. now I see you have had pretty much trouble in past life. — I see there is much for you that you would like to know. & I urge you send 50 cts in

Stamps for a full read
ing or $1.00 for a business
reading. You may ask 6
questions & No each one.
write soon
Yours in Truth

S. Z. Barney.